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Japanese Interpreter Pricing Snapshot: 2026 Core Rates, Specialties, and Regional Indexing

A Critical Reference Guide for Immediate Budgeting

This document provides a concise overview of the Japanese ⇄ English interpretation rate structure for FY 2026, based on the Tokyo baseline (100% index). Rates reflect the fees charged per interpreter and exclude Non-Rate Card Costs (NRCCs) such as equipment rental and T&A.

1. Core Tiered Interpretation Rates (General Business, Tokyo Baseline 2026)

These tiers determine base pricing based on expertise, experience, and simultaneous interpretation (SI) capability.

Rank/Tier	Experience/Proficiency	Half-Day (Up to 4 Hrs) JPY	Full-Day (Up to 8 Hrs) JPY
S (Elite Conference)	10+ yrs, SI Master, Specialized Conferences	¥91,000 – ¥115,000	¥130,000 – ¥170,000
A (Senior Specialist)	10+ yrs, Deep Domain Expertise, SI Capable	¥77,000 – ¥91,000	¥110,000 – ¥130,000
B (Mid-Level Corporate)	5+ yrs, General Corporate, Strong Consecutive	¥59,000 – ¥77,000	¥85,000 – ¥110,000
C (Junior/Attendant)	1+ yr, Liaison, Exhibition, Escort Interpretation	¥35,000 – ¥50,000	¥50,000 – ¥70,000

2. Specialized Industry Interpretation Rates (Tier A/S, Full-Day Benchmark)

Specialization premiums (20% to 100% surcharge) are mandatory to compensate for the deep subject matter expertise required in high-liability fields.



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Sub-Specialty	Mode	Rate Range (JPY)	Typical Premium Surcharge
M&A Due Diligence	Consecutive / Whispering	¥140,000 – ¥210,000	40% – 70%
Courtroom/Judicial (Tokyo/Osaka)	Consecutive / Sworn	¥120,000 – ¥180,000	20% – 50%
Regulatory/PMDA Audit	SI / Whispering	¥150,000 – ¥240,000	50% – 100%

3. Regional Interpretation Rate Indexing (Tier A Full-Day CI Benchmark)

Use this index to adjust your budget based on local market supply, demand, and specific cost structures outside the Tokyo baseline.

Region	Est. Full-Day Rate Index (Relative to Tokyo=100%)	Rate Range (JPY)	Primary Demand Driver
Tokyo (Kanto)	100% (Baseline)	¥110,000 – ¥130,000	Finance, Global HQ, Government
Osaka (Kansai)	105% – 115% (Post-EXPO Premium)	¥115,500 – ¥149,500	Manufacturing, Healthcare, Logistics
Nagoya (Chubu)	90% – 95%	¥99,000 – ¥123,500	Automotive, Heavy Industry
Fukuoka (Kyushu)	85% – 90%	¥93,500 – ¥117,000	IT Startups, Regional Logistics Hub